

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 SAJ-01 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00

EURE-00 DRC-01 /077 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3938

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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USIA FOR IEE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UR

SUBJ: SOVIET TREATMENT OF AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS

REF: (A) MOSCOW 11583; (B) STATE 226265

1. CHARGE BROUGHT UP QUESTIONS RELATING TO PRRSS AND RECENT CORRESPONDENT INCIDENTS DURING OFFICIAL CALL OCT. 19 ON DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTRY ZEMSKOV. ZEMSKOV RESPONDED MATTERS WOULD BE CONSIDERED BY APPROPRIATE MFA OFFICES. EMBASSY FOLLOW-UP ON THIS RESPONSE HAS BEEN DELAYED BY OTHER CURRENT EVENTS BUT FURTHER MEETING AT MFA HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR EARLY NEXT WEEK.

2. FYI. CHARGE AND P&C COUNSELOR CALLED OCT. 19 ON ZEMSKOV WITH STATED PURPOSE FOLLOWING UP ON GENERAL QUESTIONS CORRESPONDENTS SITUATION (RAISED MOST RECENTLY WITH HIM DURING VISIT USIA DIRECTOR KEOGH REFTEL A.) AND WITH INTENTION RAISING RECENT INCIDENTS. ZEMSKOV SURPRISINGLY DENIED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS AREA AND STATED IT WAS SOLELY RESPONSIBILITY FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KUZNETSOV. OUTSTANDING POINTS AND INCIDENTS NOTED PARA 2 REFTEL B WERE HOWEVER BROUGHT UP TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ZEMSKOV WHO SAID HE WOULD PASS THEM ON.

3. REPEATED PARALLEL EFFORTS SEE MFA PRESS DIVISION CHIEF
V.N. SOFINSKIY HAVE BEEN SO FAR UNSUCCESSFUL. HIS UNAVAILA-
BILITY MAY BE PARTLY DUE EVENTS, HIS LEAVE, HOLIDAYS AND
CURRENT ABSENCE WITH GENERALLSECRETARY IN KIEV, AS CLAIMED.
EMBASSY MUST HOWEVER ASSUME SOFINSKIY IS AVOIDING US,
PROBABLY BECAUSE HE HAS NO POSITIVE REPLY ON MATTERS SUCH
AS MULTIPLE ENTRY-EXIT VISAS AND U.S. NEWS BUREAU. FORMAL
LETTER EARLIER THIS WEEK REQUESTING APPOINTMENT WITH
SOFINSKIY AND OTHER STEPS SHOULD FORCE ISSUE TO POINT OF
MEETING WITH SOFINSKIY AND/OR KUZNETSOV EARLY NEXT WEEK. END FIY
DUBS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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